

# Virginia Department of Health (VDH) Pandemic Influenza Monthly Activity Report December 8, 2008

# **WORLDWIDE UPDATE**

• The World Health Organization (WHO) has not reported any additional human cases of avian influenza A/H5N1 since September 10. The cumulative case count stands at 387 cases, including 245 deaths. This represents a case-fatality rate of 63.3 percent.

## **VDH ACTIVITIES – Central Office**

- This will be the final monthly pandemic influenza activity report.
- The next PanFlu Advisory Group Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Health and Medical Subpanel of the Secure Commonwealth Panel on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, at the Crowne Plaza West Hotel (6531 W. Broad Street) in Richmond. Registration is now open in TRAIN (<a href="https://va.train.org">https://va.train.org</a>). Check-in on the 9<sup>th</sup> begins at 12:30pm, and the meeting will run from 1pm until 4:30pm.
- On November 20-21, VDH conducted a statewide pandemic influenza (PanFlu) response exercise, FLUEX '08. In addition to many of the Central Office elements, local health departments, hospitals, other state and federal agencies and private sector partners participated. By all measures the exercise was a large success and served to better prepare the Commonwealth to respond in the event of a pandemic. Observers from CDC, FEMA and DOD all commented on the challenging scope and level of detailed planning involved in executing FLUEX '08. In addition to players responding to the many scenario events introduced, distribution of (mock) antivirals, after-hours alerts and response and local mass vaccination exercises comprised additional elements of this complex enterprise. EP&R is in the process of collecting lessons learned and will publish a comprehensive after-action report in the following weeks. This will serve to keep VDH yet better prepared to respond to all natural and man-made threats.
- Director, Emergency Operations, Planning and Logistics gave a presentation on preparations for pandemic to private school nurses.
- Director, Emergency Operations, Planning and Logistics sat as a member of an FDA Panel investigating the efficacy for use of pre-prescribed antiviral homekits in the event of an influenza pandemic.
- Health Districts and Emergency Preparedness & Response (EP&R) Regions continue community outreach and coordinated PanFlu planning (refer to following VDH Pandemic Flu Activities Progress Report).

# **VDH ACTIVITIES – Regional Reports**

## • Central Region

Central Region Health Districts held five Influenza Vaccination Exercises, simulating the kind of activity that would take place in response to a PanFlu outbreak as influenza vaccine became available. Health Districts that held flu vaccination clinics included: Chesterfield (traditional public Point of Dispensing [POD] exercise at two school locations); Chickahominy (public POD drive-through exercise); Piedmont (traditional public POD exercise utilizing a fire station); Richmond City (closed POD exercise at four locations targeted at first responders and their families utilizing police and fire stations); and, Thomas Jefferson (closed POD exercise at two locations for county and school employees). These exercises allowed Districts the opportunity to practice mass dispensing, develop staff skills, test procedures, measure throughput capability and develop incident command expertise that would be used in the instance

- of a PanFlu outbreak, with the additional benefits of immunizing citizens against the current strain of seasonal flu anticipated this year. Planner, Training Coordinator and Public Information Officer (PIO) served as evaluators, observers, PIO and photographer at these exercises.
- o FLUEX '08 provided the Commonwealth with the framework through which state, local, private, and civic organizations can demonstrate preparation and response capabilities to a Commonwealth-wide crisis involving PanFlu. The exercise also revisited key issues identified in previous exercise after-action reports (AARs). During the exercise the Central Region Training Coordinator served as a Controller for FLUEX '08, while the Central Regional Planner served as Controller for the Thomas Jefferson Health District during FLUEX '08.
- o PIO managed communications related issues during the exercise including developing and editing PanFlu communications templates, media outreach and education, scheduling television and radio interviews, managing media inquiries and organizing meetings involving VDH, VDEM and VBS staff.
- PIO and Trainer continued work on developing a PanFlu Risk and Crisis
   Communication Training Program to be offered to VDH staff state-wide beginning in
   January. In addition, PIO produced PanFlu, crisis and risk communications news
   video clips related to this training.

# • Eastern Region

- o Trainer developed a presentation for Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) nursing students on the public health nurse's role in emergency preparedness and response. The presentation takes an all-hazards approach but includes a discussion on pandemic flu and use of SNS assets.
- Team participated in FLUEX '08. Activities consisted of activation and monitoring of epr.east email address, meetings and discussion groups, conference calls with the districts, the North Carolina Emergency Response Team and the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission's Emergency Planner, an on-site visit to the Southside Regional Hospital Coordinating Center, and summarizing district situational reports (SITREPS) for submission of Regional SITREP. Team conducted a hotwash after the exercise.

## Northern Region

- O Regional team and the Planners/Epidemiologists from all the Region's local health districts participated in a conference call to discuss the planning efforts and collaborate on involvement in the FLUEX '08 exercises. Planner and PIO participated in FLUEX '08 from the regional office in Fairfax. Injects and consultation were requested from the Region's local health districts, response plans were reviewed and discussed and a consolidated regional situation report was developed. In addition, the PIO provided staff coverage to VDH's Emergency Communications Center (ECC) on the second day of the exercise.
- Planner attended a surge capacity/alternate care facility workshop, which brought together community and regional stakeholders to discuss current planning initiatives and the potential use of alternate care facilities during various public health emergencies, including an influenza pandemic and was hosted by the Arlington Health Department.
- Planner and PIO attended the Loudoun ALERT team meeting where the After-Action Report (AAR)/lessons learned from their recent flu vaccination clinic were presented. Loudoun effectively tested their concept for a Staff Staging Site and gathered CRA vaccination data for over 400 members of the community.

# • Southwest Region

- o Planner, Trainer, PIO and Epidemiologist participated in the FLUEX '08 Statewide Exercise in different capacities at different times and at different venues. Trainer served as an evaluator and the Planner served as the Controller and moderator for a tabletop exercise (TTX) held for the Cumberland Plateau during day one of the statewide FLUEX '08. PIO served as an operational PIO for the FLUEX '08 in the Central Office Emergency Communications Center (ECC) on the first day of the exercise. Regional Team held a meeting prior to the scheduled FLUEX '08 for the purpose of discussing our respective individual roles as well as out back-up roles for redundancy during FLUEX '08 and in the event of a real outbreak. Planner and Epidemiologist participated in the FLUEX '08 by monitoring e-mails in the Region and from Central Office, monitoring polycom during the event for information, monitoring Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM) and Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA) WebEOCs, and receiving SWAN alerts. Epidemiologist posted to the SWAN document library, successfully responded to an Epi-X test message via cell phone and e-mail and verified Epi-X notifications and responses with SW District Epidemiologists. Epidemiologist assisted the Planner by coordinating, preparing and distributing SitReps regarding FLUEX '08 for all 11 Districts in the SW Region.
- o PIO provided public information for the Lenowisco Health District for their drivethrough flu clinics in Gate City and the Alleghany Health District for their traditional flu clinics in Covington. PIO also provided information and media relations for information and videography for news coverage for News Channel 10 from Roanoke.
- PIO is continuing to assist the Central Virginia Public Information Network (CVPIN) for information respective to seasonal flu and other all hazards communications needs.

## VDH ACTIVITIES – Health District Reports

#### • Alexandria

- District continued testing ability to provide vaccinations to most vulnerable populations in city, including the medically-vulnerable, using a basic model of providing vaccine and all needed materials to non-Public Health nurses in a number of agencies who in turn provide the vaccinations. Experienced a significant increase in participation compared to last year.
- O Conducted a joint exercise with Arlington. While much of the focus was on traditional Cities' Readiness Initiative (CRI)-type dispensing sites, we also "push" to condominiums and apartment complexes and have discovered a way to quickly dispense information (for example about pandemic status) as well as medication.
- o For FLUEX '08, in addition to the focus on "special needs," District also conducted a Health Department Emergency Operations Center (HDEOC) exercise addressing continuity of operations, fatality management, hospital surge support, epidemiological investigation, environmental health management, hot line set and use of Incident Command.
- On a subsequent day, Director conducted a conference call with the City Manager and the City Superintendent of Schools to discuss how social distancing, including school closures, would be handled in a pandemic.

# Arlington

Posters and dioramas are now on display at Arlington Metro stations from November
 February.

 As part of the Statewide FLUEX '08, the Public Health Division, in partnership with the Office of Emergency Management, held a Continuity of Operations workshop with county agencies and community-based organizations.

#### • Central Shenandoah

- O District's Management Team and members of the Epidemiological Emergency Response Team participated throughout statewide FLUEX '08.
- Planner continues to work with District partners on the PUSH Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) agreements. Two more of the District's jurisdictions executed MOUs that would allow the District to utilize their schools during public health emergencies. Another is still pending.
- o Planner has begun to assist James Madison University with planning for an internal PanFlu TTX.

# • Central Virginia

- O District continues to coordinate its efforts on pandemic response and preparedness with the community partners.
- Epidemiologist and Planner gave a several PanFlu presentations at the Central Virginia Community College and also participated in FLUEX '08; monitoring situation via the State's WebEOC for the State and hospital status via VHHA's WebEOC.
- Planner attended a meeting of the local government Emergency Management Group, at which alternate care facilities were discussed and a working group for developing the resource established.

## Chesapeake

- Planner and Epidemiologist assisted Chesapeake Regional Medical Center (CRMC) with PanFlu and exercise planning through meetings with their Emergency Management Coordinator and at the hospital committee's monthly meeting.
- o Planner and Epidemiologist, serving as Controller and Evaluator respectively, assisted the Indian Creek Correctional Center with conducting the full-scale PanFlu exercise named Secure Creek.
- O District MRC activated six members (including the Program Coordinator) to provide support to the Indian Creek Correctional Center's PanFlu full-scale exercise. This included two RNs providing triage, one RN and one LPN providing support to the quarantine section, one non-medical volunteer providing logistics support in the pharmacy; the MRC Program Coordinator was the Volunteer Coordinator and observer.
- Members of District, MRC, City Emergency Management, Public Schools and Community Services Board participated in the HDEOC activities related to FLUEX '08.

#### Chesterfield

- Completed FLUEX '08 planning and conducted exercises. Also conducted two concurrent Points of Dispensing (PODs) (one in Colonial Heights and one in Powhatan) providing free flu vaccine to public, coordinating operations through HDEOC (operating out of District offices). Staffing for the PODs included district employees, district MRC volunteers, and CERT members from Chesterfield and Colonial Heights. During FLUEX '08, operated HDEOC responding to a number of injects. Also, during that time, conducted discussions with Chesterfield and Powhatan School System personnel regarding their PanFlu plans.
- o Planner functioned as an observer for Chickahominy Health District's drive-through flu vaccination exercise.

o Planner met with representative from Chesterfield County's Human Resources to discuss their PanFlu HR policies.

# • Chickahominy

- O District performed a drive-thru vaccination drill on the grounds of a local high and middle school using the schools' bus loop as the site of the vaccine administration; 450 doses of free seasonal flu vaccine were dispensed. Community partner involvement included Hanover County Sheriff's and Public Information Offices, as well as Hanover County Public Schools' personnel.
- District participated in FLUEX '08 with local community partners (school safety and preparedness leaders) and focused on social distancing, absentee detection and decisions on when to close.

#### Crater

- District Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) participated in the VA HOSA Region I Fall Leadership Academy as a presenter in Emporia. Emergency Preparedness and MRC material was disseminated to over 100 participants.
- o MRC and Planner participated in statewide FLUEX '08 TTX with Fort Lee.
- Over 900 pieces of PanFlu, Emergency Preparedness and MRC material was disseminated to assistant living facilities' employees and area elementary school students and teachers. PanFlu team, in collaboration with the Epidemiologist, also disseminated infection control material to assistant living facilities and nursing homes.
- Met with the Baptist Ministers' Association, an organization that consists of District clergy, where an MRC presentation was given, as well as other valuable information to be shared with their congregations.
- o Eighth edition of "The Flu Flash" newsletter was blast faxed to all primary care physicians, nursing homes and hospital infection control practitioners in the District, informing them of influenza updates and PanFlu tidbits.
- MRC continued with its monthly meeting and training; PanFlu was offered by District PanFlu Health Educator, and several volunteers agreed to train as MRC Orientation presenters.

## • Cumberland Plateau

- o Planner presented on emergency preparedness to the after-school program participants at Swords Creek Elementary School.
- O Director, Epidemiologist and Planner held several meetings to develop the Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) and work out the logistics for the Non-pharmaceutical Intervention TTX that was held in conjunction with FLUEX '08. Epidemiologist and Planner participated in a joint teleconference with Lenowisco Health District to coordinate and finalize regional plans for FLUEX '08. District Management Staff, along with Planner and Regional Planner and Trainer, as well as area school and community college administrators, emergency management personnel, Hospital Infectious Control Professionals and County Emergency Centers participated in the TTX.
- o Planner participated in the Russell County Disaster Recovery Task Force Meeting.
- Epidemiologist, Every Woman's Life (EWL) Coordinator, the Nurse Managers, along with several Nurses and Clerks and Planner conducted Flu Vaccine POD Clinics for EWL Clients.
- Epidemiologist, the Nurse Managers along with several Nurses and Clerks and Planner conducted follow-up Flu Vaccine Clinics for in school flu vaccination program participants needing a second vaccine.

 Planner presented an emergency preparedness program to Cedar Bluff Elementary School third and fourth grade students to meet their emergency preparedness Standards of Learning (SOLs).

#### • Eastern Shore

- O Conducted drive-thru flu vaccination clinic at Nandua High School where 153 attendees received a free flu vaccination and a germ stop tube with sanitizer, mask and disinfecting wipes. Using three service lanes, the throughput time was less than four minutes per vehicle.
- Planner, District Director, Nursing Supervisors, MRC Coordinator, Administrative Manager, local Emergency Managers and Shore Memorial Hospital staff participated in statewide FLUEX '08. Issues were documented throughout exercise and will be incorporated in an After-Action Report.

#### Fairfax

O PanFlu outreach team presented PanFlu education and preparedness information to: a Women, Infant and Child (WIC) Program serving various ethnic population in Falls Church; attendees of an ESOL Regional Parents Meeting for Fairfax County Public Schools; Early Head Start Child Care Providers Annual Training; low-income families attending Grace Ministries' monthly food and clothing distribution; Hispanics attending a Sunday Spanish service at St. Anthony Catholic Church; parents attending a monthly meeting with Fairfax County Public Schools Early Head Start Program; and, a health clinic sponsored by the Hispanic Institute of Blindness Prevention.

# Hampton

- Planner attended PanFlu response meetings with Fort Monroe and has been asked to be part of their PanFlu planning group and to the base PanFlu response plan, recommending changes to it plan including the outfitting of base staff with Personal Protective Gear.
- o Held flu shot clinic ("VACC & VOTE") on at a Hampton Polling place providing 275 vaccinations.
- o In conjunction with FLUEX '08, provided 130 vaccinations at City of Hampton's "JABBIN' AT THE JAIL" to inmates and staff. Two clinics conducted simultaneously at two geographically separate locations, the jail and jail annex. EP&R deliberately did not assist set-up, leaving that to the two immunization teams. The event also used District police radios to communicate between the two sites and the HDOC at the District office.
- o Epidemiologist met with National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the American Industrial Hygiene Association and with Fast Forward (program that helps disadvantaged mothers prepare for obtaining a job and getting back on their feet) and presented PanFlu planning information.
- O Discussed PanFlu response and "triggers" that would be considered for closing Hampton schools with: Hampton City's school nurses, 311 (information line), Social Services, Attorney's Office, Community Services Board (CSB) and Information Technology; NASA Facility Operations; Ft. Monroe (base medical and base operations); Langley Air Force Base's 1st Medical Group. Hampton City Emergency Management (EM) Office representatives would have attended but were out of town taking part in EM training.

# • Henrico

- O Planner worked on the After-Action Report (AAR) for the PanFlu isolation and quarantine exercise that took place in October and included local response partners. Anticipated completion date for the AAR is December 12.
- MRC/PanFlu Coordinator, Epidemiologist and Planner participated in FLUEX '08
  via polycom. District's participation included reacting to an internally-driven MSEL
  and questions from local hospitals that were participating in the exercise.
- o MRC/PanFlu Coordinator gave a PanFlu presentation to a meeting of Henrico Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (SALT).
- o Epidemiologist sent weekly pandemic/avian influenza updates via email to community partners. District also sent monthly Public Health Bytes newsletter, which includes a Pandemic/Avian Flu update, to local healthcare facilities, medical providers, schools, first responders, county officials and other interested parties.
- o MRC/PanFlu Coordinator continued MRC emergency preparedness training sessions for both the eastern and western MRC units in Henrico County.
- o MRC/PanFlu Coordinator distributed the "MRC Voice," a local MRC newsletter, which continues to carry PanFlu information and global updates for its readers.

# Lenowisco

- O District simultaneously conducted three drive-through clinics on one day, one in each county (Lee, Scott and Wise) as part of the EP&R dispensing drill. Many agencies assisted with this exercise and a local hospital provided nurses at all three sites. PanFlu and Emergency Preparedness materials were distributed to individuals participating in the exercises.
- O District management participated in a planning meeting leading up to FLUEX '08 to brief staff on the upcoming exercise. The exercise was conducted at the Wise County Health Department as part of the statewide PanFlu exercise; 18 different agencies/partners joined VDH staff for discussion and planning for responding a PanFlu event. In addition, the Team Leader for the Region 6 Public Health Regional Surveillance Team from North Carolina and the Regional Epidemiologist from Kentucky participated as evaluators.

## Lord Fairfax

- O Attended the VDEM Region II Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan Workshop; the three-year plan is a continuation of the seminar conducted earlier this year and will continue the integration of all Emergency Support Functions (ESFs) with local schools systems, which will aid in planning for contingencies associated with all hazards to include PanFlu-related issues.
- o Presented briefing to incoming Director and Management Team on the District PanFlu response plan in preparation for FLUEX '08.
- O Conducted a meeting with the District Response Team, which included an e-mail exercise based on the lead-up messages for statewide FLUEX '08 that served as an orientation to the District PanFlu plan. Planner and District Management Team participated in FLUEX '08 and tested Health Alert Network (HAN) capabilities, Continuity of Operations and community surge. Planner also began to draft After-Action Report to identify lessons learned.
- Served as an evaluator for the Loudoun County Code Flu '08, evaluating the functions of the Staging Site operations that supported the mass vaccination site.
- Met with Shenandoah University School of Health Professions to work on a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the use of school facilities for POD, staging and other Public Health operations. This agreement will also serve to

- incorporate the School of Health Professions' staff into the District MRC as a Task Force to supplement the Public Health workforce in an emergency.
- O Conducted Operation Long Run, a TTX to test the ability of Valley Health to be self reliant in all its constituent parts in response to the Joint Commission's 96-hour rule. This exercise was based on impacts from a pandemic coupled with the effects of a large scale ice storm in the Shenandoah Valley.

## Loudoun

- O Provided PanFlu presentations and handout information for 22 members of the Lucketts Ruritan, 12 students in the Health and Medical Sciences class of Monroe Technology Center and 32 senior nursing students at Shenandoah University in Leesburg. Continued distribution of PanFlu information to the general public at: Ashburn Firehouse Pancake Breakfast, Loudoun County CodeFlu '08 PanFlu exercise; three Health Check Health Assessment focus group meetings and approximately 600 participants in the Leesburg Parks and Recreation "Freeze Your Gizzard 5K Run."
- O Conducted 'CodeFlu '08, a local PanFlu full-scale exercise with a flu vaccine medical POD and a Staging Site for registering, assigning and deploying staff and MRC volunteers. Over 300 community members received a flu shot at the POD and 99 shots were administered to workers at the Staging Site. County partners participating in the exercise included Loudoun County's Office of Emergency Management, Public Schools, Sheriff's Office, Community Emergency Response Team, Public Works and Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services, as well as the Virginia Defense Force, Loudoun Chapter of the American Red Cross and Inova Loudoun Hospital
- Participated in statewide FLUEX '08 with Loudoun County Office of Emergency Management and local hospital representatives.

# • Mount Rogers

- O Conducted TTX with community partners as part of FLUEX '08. Participants were given the opportunity to discuss their roles, responsibilities and anticipated outcome in response to a pandemic. Coordinated with hospitals on resource requests during exercise. Monitored WebEOC and VHHA WebEOC to obtain situational awareness and resource requests. Approximately 22 community partners and HD staff participated in the exercise.
- o Planner served as an evaluator for Lenowisco Health District's drive-through POD.
- o Planner presented PanFlu and emergency preparedness information to the Washington County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC).
- o District staff are following-up with Wythe County School students to receive second dose of seasonal influenza immunization (for those younger than nine years of age).
- O Planner met with VDEM and CRA consultants to conduct final planning conference to discuss follow-up planning sessions based on feedback from the Southwest Virginia Disaster Preparedness Summit. VDEM and District will conduct three planning sessions on December 10: Session 1 will discuss local planning and local Emergency Operations Plans; Session 2 will be a review of the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan; and, Session 3 will focus on school crisis management planning. Each session will include planning for a pandemic.

## New River

o Director, Infection Control Nurse, Epidemiologist and Planner continue search to identify organizations that need PanFlu education/preparedness.

- All District staff participated in FLUEX '08. All staff has been trained in HAN and took advantage of the opportunity to communicate FLUEX '08 messages to staff via HAN.
- Planner has been re-visiting long term care/assisted living facilities in an effort to maintain PanFlu awareness for administration and staff and has been coordinating meetings to discuss med surge/alternate care with the hospitals that routinely receive patients from these facilities.
- District partnered with the New River Valley Free Clinic Consortium to conduct five separate PODs for which to administer free flu vaccine. One additional POD is scheduled for December 8.
- Epidemiologist and Infection Control Nurse have scheduled meetings with VA Tech and Radford University Health Services to discuss their PanFlu plans in addition to best practices for infection control/reporting.

#### Norfolk

- Health Promotions Team conducted PanFlu presentations for the following organizations: Bel Air Civic League meeting, Norfolk State University Health Education class, Blackhawk Products Health Fair and Norfolk City Hall's employee Flu Shot Day with a total of 445 vaccinations given and 4 Pneumovax injections.
- Planner, Administration, Health Promotions, Environmental Health, Logistics,
   Epidemiology and Nursing staff, as well as local EOC, hospitals, law enforcement,
   and city fire agencies participated in the statewide FLUEX '08.

#### Peninsula

o No report received.

## • Piedmont

- o Conducted several seasonal influenza vaccine clinics for the public, as well as for public and private school systems and local businesses.
- o Participated in FLUEX '08 with local hospital, concentrating on private and public communications issues.

#### • Pittsvlvania-Danville

- o Conducted a mass dispensing PanFlu exercise operating two POD sites simultaneously.
- o Participated in the FLUEX '08 statewide PanFlu exercise.

#### Portsmouth

- o TTX conducted with Portsmouth Schools as part of FLUEX '08. Potential gaps and issues were identified and have prompted the school system to once again update its plans. Trigger points for closing, other than student/teacher attendance, were identified. Exercise provided a great discussion on ways of providing social distancing within each school. Key staff, in addition to both the District Director and School Superintendent participated. Also provided exercise support and discussion/play with Maryview Medical Center during FLUEX '08.
- Dialog continues with Naval Medical Center Portsmouth and NAVMEDEAST regarding medical surge, availability of care for dependents and deployment of naval personnel during a pandemic event. Next meeting scheduled for January.
- Continue to provide ongoing support and direction for business contacts during the development of their PanFlu plans.

## • Prince William

O District participated in FLUEX '08 via polycom. Manassas Park Fire Department was a community partner during the exercise.

#### Rappahannock

- District conducted a close-out mass vaccination exercise at the Moss Free Clinic, distributing 40 free flu shots (left over from its earlier mass vaccination exercise in Caroline County) to indigent clients. Participants included District staff and MRC volunteers.
- Management Team discussed PanFlu in the context of Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) issues.
- o District participated in the statewide FLUEX '08 by conducting a call-down drill and opening its HDEOC.

# • Rappahannock-Rapidan

- District staff gave PanFlu and All Hazards Preparedness presentations to five community groups.
- Over two-thirds of District staff and 40 MRC volunteers participated in two mass flu vaccination exercises on the same day with shift changes at each event, which were each well attended. PanFlu materials were passed out to all attendees.
- Staff entered information on patients from the drive-through flu exercise into the CDCs CRA program.
- o District staff, in coordination with two local hospitals, participated in FLUEX '08.

# • Richmond City

- O In conjunction with Novartis Pharmaceuticals and the elementary schools Weekly Reader scholastic newspaper, District developed "take home" information for city's school children. This backpack flyer stressed the importance of children obtaining flu vaccine. This was created for 4th graders but was sent home with all students.
- o Richmond City Sheriff's Department provided PanFlu training for ten staff members.
- o Planner provided presentation to MRC volunteers on Emergency Preparedness.
- District provided flu vaccines to Richmond City "Senior Connections" and Salvation Army.
- o District participated in statewide FLUEX '08. Participants included local hospitals, Emergency Management, MRC and District staff.

# • Roanoke/Alleghany County

 Conducted Flu Dispensing PODs at the Roanoke and Salem Civic Centers and Dabney Lancaster Community College. Also conducted a PanFlu TTX with the Allegheny School System and participated in statewide FLUEX '08.

# • Southside

o No report received.

#### • Thomas Jefferson

- o Participated in a mass vaccination exercise consisting of two sites, 1,126 people were vaccinated in just under four and one half hours.
- o Participated in FLUEX '08.
- Assisted the Louisa School District efforts to write its PanFlu plan. Director and Planner met with Nelson County officials to assist in writing the county's PanFlu Plan.
- o Currently updating District's All Hazards Emergency Operations (EOP) and PanFlu Plans
- o Working with the Charlottesville Free Clinic to distribute 50 Flu vaccinations.
- o Met with the Fluvanna County Emergency Planner and discussed PanFlu preparedness and response.
- o Planner met with American Legion Post 74 and presented a PowerPoint presentation on PanFlu and emergency preparedness.

## Three Rivers

- O Planner, MRC volunteers and Health Educator handed out PanFlu, seasonal flu, hand washing and respiratory hygiene literature along with hand sanitizer belt clips at two separate displays at the Northern Neck Community Health Fair. Public Health Nurses also administered flu shot clinics at the fair and the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.
- o Planner contacted District emergency managers and hospitals in an attempt to solicit participation in FLUEX '08.
- O Planner conducted a PanFlu Planning for Schools presentation/discussion for which invitations were sent to all 12 school districts to attend as part of the statewide FLUEX '08. Ten school districts sent representatives for the session, at which they were provided a PowerPoint presentation, exercise scenario and injects and a PanFlu planning toolkit to take back to their respective school districts.
- o Planner, Director and Epidemiologist participated in FLUEX '08 monitoring phone, email and WebEOC and providing District situation reports for each day.

# • Virginia Beach

- O District is providing resources on an ongoing basis to the Virginia Beach Department of Human Services (VDHS) throughout flu season to distribute to the public:
- Over 1000 small, individual-use hand sanitizer bottles, as well as "Seasonal Flu, Pandemic Flu and Bird Flu: What you Need to Know" and children's activity booklets, have been distributed throughout the VDHS to be provided to the public
- O District collaborated with the city's Emergency Management and other city departments to participate in the Commonwealth's FLUEX '08. The exercise was incorporated into the City's local WebEOC, which tested the implementation of a mock flu symptom data surveillance tracking board and also allowed for "virtual" play among city departments.

## • West Piedmont

- o Planner emailed the monthly PanFlu newsletter to all three planning committees in the District as well as district staff.
- Planner, Epidemiologist, Director and Nursing Supervisor participated in the statewide FLUEX '08 exercise. Planner worked directly with Carilion Franklin Memorial Hospital at their facility on the second day of the exercise.
- Held influenza POD drills at Smith River Rescue squad and at Axton Life Saving Crew.

## • Western Tidewater

- New Planner began and is becoming familiar with District's and State's PanFlu plan(s).
- Director, Nurse Manger and Epidemiologist conducted a TTX in conjunction with FLUEX '08 and included the local hospital, pubic and private schools and community services boards.
- District continuing with outreach to local Nursing Facilities concerning PanFlu Planning.